

City of Menomonie
Urban Forestry Board February 15, 2006

Members Present: Alta Vasey Morgan, Joe Jax, John Anshus, Del Vollrath, Bob Giede, Sally Schendel

Others Present: Bruce Heath, Dick Henning, John Johnson

Absent: Chuck Klos, Sandy White, Marty Havlovic

Alta Vasey Morgan called the meeting to order. Volunteer hours were circulated.

Joe Jax moved to accept the minutes. John Anshus seconded. Approved.

John Anshus encouraged Board members and City Staff to attend the Minnesota Shade Tree Shortcourse on March 21-22.

Memorial Tree: Bob Giede is sanding on the tree. It will be completed by March 1, 2006. No lacquer will be used on the engraved leaves of the tree.

Lakebank Nature Trail: The trail is 1200 feet long. It is now connected to the Waterfront stairway and extends to the DOT trail. Riprap has been placed along the bank. Black dirt and an erosion mat is stapled to the wall. Bricks for the trailhead are \$100. The amount of \$11,185 is currently in the account. Thursday, June 15, 2006 is the dedication.

Winter Gardening Seminar: Alta Vasey Morgan reported the topics were Roses in Zone 5, Orchids, and a Minnesota Extension presentation on Zones 3 and 4.

Urban Forestry Conference/Trade Show: Dick Henning thanked the board for sending him to the conference. He was on a presenting panel. One of the highlights was a presentation by the City of Milwaukee on Tree Preservation on Construction Sites.

Tree Canopy: Dick Henning obtained a Spring 2004 aerial photo of Menomonie from the DNR website. He has estimated Menomonie's tree canopy to be 26%, excluding the airport, industrial park and new annexation areas. The American Foresters recommend a tree canopy of 35-40%. Dick noted that the City of Milwaukee, noted for their Urban Forestry program has a canopy of 19%.

Forestry Specialist's Report: John Johnson said that the pruning zone is completed. The crew is working on cutting down buckthorn, honeysuckle and box elder. They have completed Miller Park and are working on the trail on the lake bank. The spring boulevard trees are ordered and will arrive in May.

Joe Jax moved to seek the possibility of adding buckthorn to the weed ordinance. John Anshus seconded. Approved.

Northwest Regional DNR Network Meeting: Bruce Heath reported that the meeting will be held Wednesday, March 15, 2006 at 9:00 A.M. in the Menomonie Public Library conference room. There will be a presentation on the Heritage Tree Program. G.F.W.C. Menomonie Woman's

Club will serve refreshments. The Urban Forestry Board members will attend this meeting and have a short meeting following the DNR meeting.

Arbor Day: River Heights Elementary School will be contacted to be the site of the Friday, April 28th program. Bob Giede identified a group of pine trees on the school property that need proper trimming. It was suggested that in addition to planting three trees, that a demonstration of properly trimming a pine tree be included in the program. The board is encouraged to think about awards for both individual and business.

Mabel Tainter Parking Lot: John Anshus said that at a meeting he attended, Randy Eide had requested more green space for the parking lot, as the board requested.

Dunn County Historical Society: They are interested in protecting an oak tree when their new addition is built. Dick Henning urged them to cut the oaks affected by oak wilt on the property.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 15 at 9:00 A.M. at the Menomonie Public Library.

Adjournment: Bob Giede moved to adjourn the meeting. John Anshus seconded. Approved.

Sally Schendel, Recorder

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